

Residential Treatment



BEACON LIGHT
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM

1-800-345-1780
www.beacon-light.org



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Beacon Light maintains several children's residential homes and facilities in Bradford, Youngsville and Towanda, PA. All are licensed, Joint Commission-approved RTFs.

The agency will consider for treatment only the young person who meets the following criteria:

- Be of school age.
- Have a mental health diagnosis that indicates he/she is psychiatrically in need of structured/supportive mental health intervention.
- Have a full scale IQ of 50 or above.
- Have demonstrated maladaptive interpersonal behavior which significantly impairs his/her functioning within the family or among peers.
- Be free of acute medical conditions and be self-preserving.
- Be capable of functioning in a regular or special education classroom of the public school or attend the Custer City Private School operated by the Children's Center for Treatment and Education.
- Be willing to enter into treatment voluntarily with parental agreement and support or be admitted under court order.

In addition, the Treatment Team reserves the

right to exclude a young person who exhibits repeated incidents of high-risk behaviors and/or a combination of high-risk behaviors. The Treatment Team may also exclude a young person if it is deemed that admission in the current population would not be appropriate.

The initial request for placement is made by telephone, fax or mail to the Treatment Coordinator. The following will be obtained in writing from the placing agency prior to placement:

- A descriptive summary of circumstances that makes placement necessary.
- The needs of the child that the facility must address in treatment.
- The child's legal status.
- When available, family background, medical history, educational records, and psychological or psychiatric evaluations.
- Referrals who are PA residents should have a recent evaluation from a licensed psychiatrist recommending the need for placement in a RTF, or have received prior authorization from a participating Managed Care Organization.



It is the policy of the Agency that all referrals will be discussed with the Treatment Team, prior to approval for admission, and that decisions are reached with regard to the referral's appropriateness for admission within 24 hours.

If the child is not appropriate, the placing agency is notified in writing or by phone call, with specific reasons included. A copy of this letter is then included in the referral packet. Additional input may be needed from more specialized clinical staff (psychiatrist). When this occurs, the information will be forwarded to that staff for his/her recommendation. The Treatment Coordinator will then meet with that staff and brings the recommendation back to the group the following morning.

If the adolescent appears to be an appropriate placement, a pre-placement visit may be arranged. This visit should include the young person, his/her county caseworker, and his/her family, if possible. At this time, the adolescent and the family will have an opportunity to meet the staff, see the living areas, and become acquainted with the program of the Children's Center as it relates to them. Plans for placement may be finalized at this time, if acceptance into the program is agreed upon. The initial clothing inventory will be outlined at this time, as well as other information relative to placement.

Referrals Contact:
814-817-1400 ext. 1281
Fax #814-230-0159